

THE QUILL

APRIL, 1913

VOLUME I

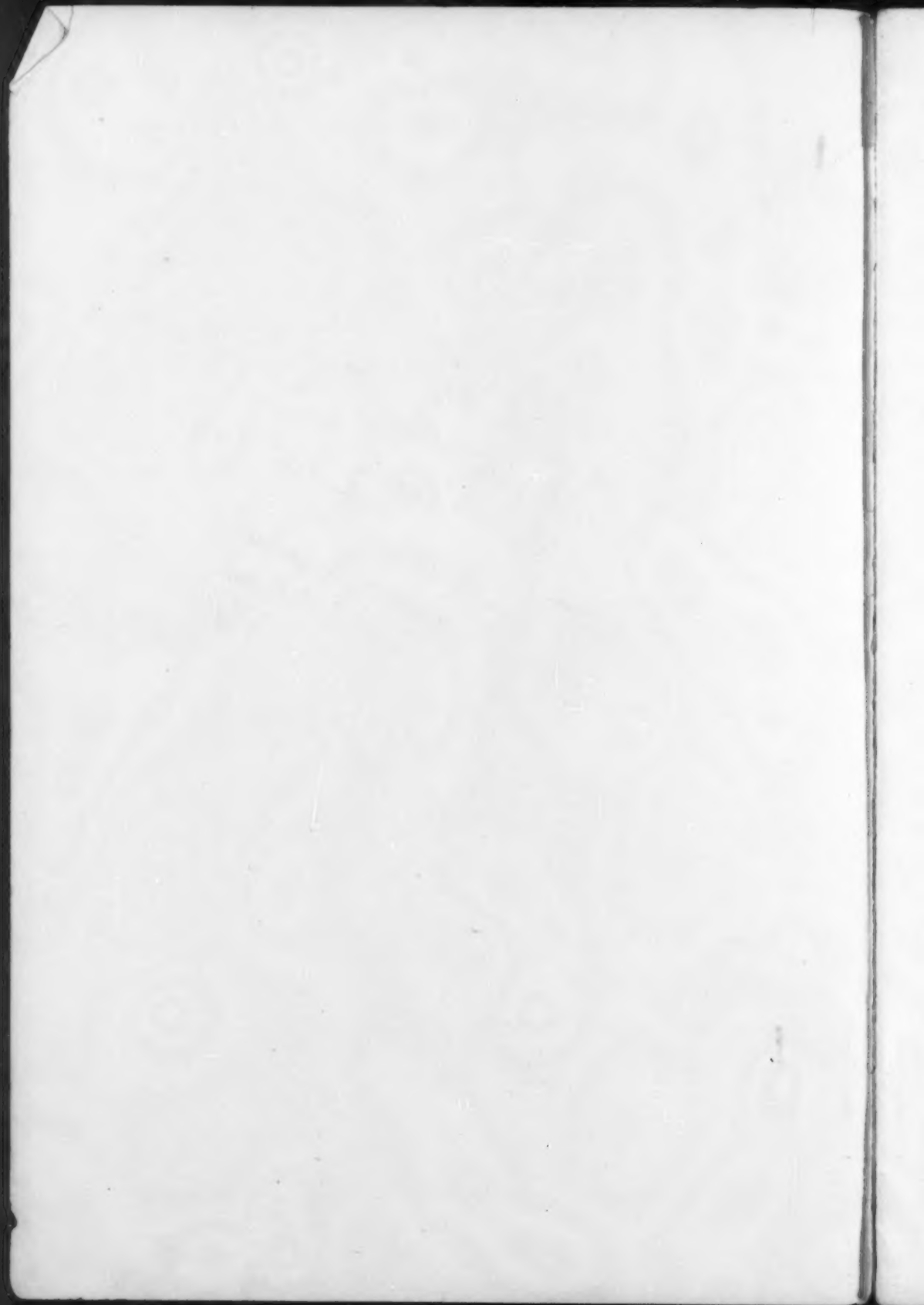
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THE QUILL

FRANK W. PENNELL, Editor

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VOL. I

APRIL, 1913

No. 3

EDITORIALS

A FEW "GET'S."

Get the Wallop.
Get the Punch.
Get in Line.
Get a Ticket.
Get the Date in mind—May 2 and 3.
Get to Madison if you have to walk—or ride a "blind"—or brow-
beat the con—fly, swim, dive, but—
Get there.

PARTING WORDS.

Down at little old De Pauw just a year ago, the first annual convention of Sigma Delta Chi provided three days, happy beyond expression, for the group of men who there assembled from all corners of the country in the cause of the fraternity which may claim the most fruitful field in the world. At its close, there was but one regret, and that a deep one, namely, that every member of Sigma Delta Chi couldn't have been present. For conventions are the life-blood of organizations such as ours.

Again a year has rolled around and again it is convention time. Let's presume, for a moment, that there's nothing in any of us but down-right selfishness. On such an assumption, attendance at this

convention will be a string of surprises. We will discover that all our past conceptions of a "good time" have been gross delusions. We will be feted, banqueted, entertained. We will discover, impossible as it may seem, that there are some few things that we never before knew could be possible. From one standpoint, for instance, that that only girl back at Alverno Corners has several sisters out in the wide world; from another standpoint, that our journalistic equipment is not so complete that it will not stand the advice of the Pulitzers who will cross feet with us under the banquet table.

But to be serious, this is the time of year when we must awake to the realization that our beloved fraternity has been bumping bumps the past twelve months; that there is work, a lot of it, to be done in the way of construction and reconstruction; that we are face to face with the alternatives of putting new energy into Sigma Delta Chi, or suffering it to travel along on the momentum it acquired at the convention of a year ago.

Don't say that you can't afford to get to Madison in May. To be trite, "Can't" has no place in the vocabulary of a newspaper man. We can all get to that convention if we get the habit. So let's all agree, right now, that we'll get the habit somewhere and somehow between now and the first day of May, and that we'll be on the marks with the starter's gun.

Here's to Convention Number Two—it's going to smash every record.

IOTA'S PROMISE

BY CHESTER WELLS,

PRESIDENT OF IOTA CHAPTER.

Iota Chapter at the University of Wisconsin was honored last spring by selection as host at the 1913 convention of our fraternity.

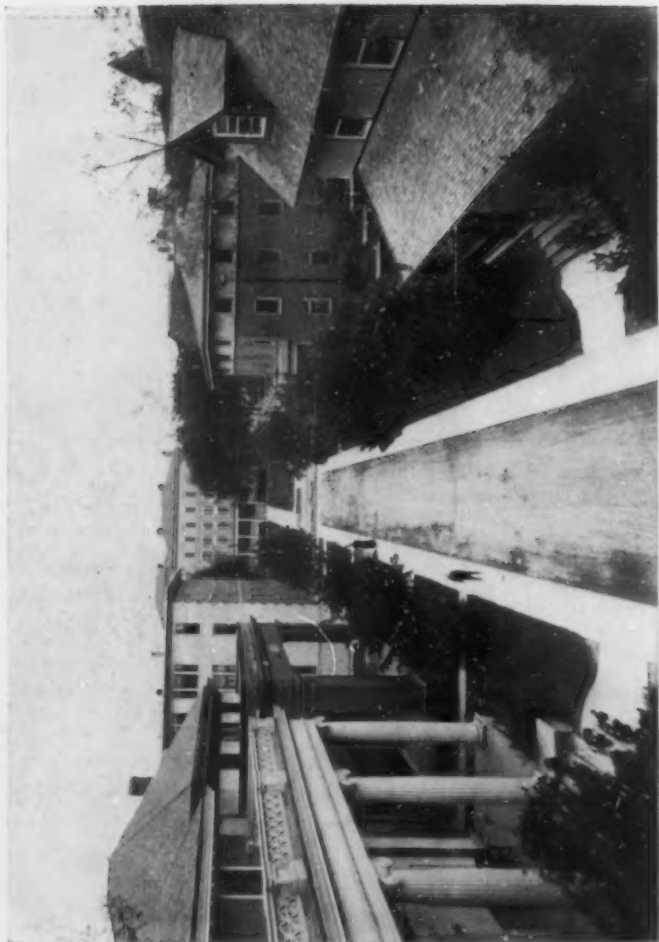
Iota Chapter, fully appreciating this honor, has been at work preparing for the meeting. We will offer something worth while.

Iota Chapter now craves the coöperation of the other chapters—it must be accorded to insure the success of our coming gathering.

In the first place, will each chapter please elect its delegate and alternate at once. Please send their names and positive word as to



LINDEN DRIVE—ALONG THE AGRICULTURAL CAMPUS.



STERLING COURT—"SORORITY VIEW."

whether they are coming, to Charles Roter, 619 Langdon, Madison, Wis. Will each chapter please send tentative word as to how many other members will represent it at Madison, too.

Secondly, will the members who are editors of the various college dailies, take up the burden of publicity, and see that stories are carried which may add to the interest in the convention.

Thirdly, will every member of the fraternity everywhere write Chairman Roter a letter giving suggestions as to what should be incorporated in the convention to make it most valuable.

The dates are Friday and Saturday, May 2 and 3.

Sessions will be held in the magnificent building which jointly houses the library of the University of Wisconsin and the State Historical society's collections. With one exception it is declared to be the prettiest library of any university.

Under the auspices of the department of journalism of the university, the State Historical society will have on exhibition in the building, a large collection of its valuable newspaper files, the first of which begin in the sixteen hundreds. The first issues of that famous New York triumvirate—*The Tribune*, *The Herald*, and *The Sun*—are included in this collection.

The journalism department will also have the university library place on exhibition its collection of foreign newspapers, which includes specimens from virtually every country on the globe.

The Historical society will arrange an exhibit in the museum, dealing with matters of publishing and publications.

Professor Bleyer of the department of journalism has promised to secure coöperation of the university to the extent that a sum from the public lecture fund will be available for the expenses of a journalist of national repute who will come to give a public lecture Friday night, May 2, at which the convention will be guest of honor. A couple of other cracker-jack speakers will be secured for this occasion. After the public addresses, the Sigma Delta Chis and the speakers will withdraw to a hospitable fraternity house for a smoker.

The Ohio State-Wisconsin track meet is Saturday afternoon, May 3. So are auto rides about the university, drives, and launch rides across the lakes.

The annual banquet will come Saturday night at the New Park Hotel.

Meals and lodging will be furnished all visiting brothers free by the various Greek letter lodges.

And don't forget about the attractions I mentioned in that brief letter in the first *QUILL*. They still hold good.

We really don't see how a single brother can stay away, either from the standpoint of a journalism convention, or from that of a social group.

Get the Wallop.

PLANS FOR THE CONVENTION

CHARLES R. ROTER.

With the date of the second annual convention of Sigma Delta Chi set for early in May, plans for the conclave are now well under way and in the hands of various committees, are gradually working toward completion. Letters have been sent out to all of the chapters, urging their serious attention and co-operation in making this convention one which will conserve to the very best interests of the fraternity, while circulars, containing more detailed information, will also be sent out.

Sigma Delta Chi is a journalistic fraternity, the greatest of its kind in existence. Therefore, on the assumption that delegates who are sent to the convention will care more for the journalistic aspect of the meeting than for the social side of it, the committee is working along new lines. Business will be made the first consideration, and the conventional time-killers, such as theatre parties and other social functions will be largely replaced by a series of addresses by newspaper men of national fame, and by others who are interested in subjects closely identified with the journalistic profession. This will be made possible by enlisting the support of the university, which is always ready to bring men here for public convocations, whose addresses will be of general interest. It is therefore our plan, which with the kind co-operation of Dr. W. G. Bleyer, head of the department of journalism, we are working out, to hold an open meeting on Friday evening, May 2, at which addresses

will be made by several of these men. Following the open meeting, which will be given under the auspices of the fraternity, the smoker will be held, and here we may expect to hear more informal talks upon subjects which will be of interest to us. The banquet, held on Saturday night will furnish further opportunity to hear from men of note whom Sigma Delta Chi numbers among her active or honorary members.

The committee on sessions, working with Dr. Bleyer has already arranged a tentative program of this nature, which includes addresses by some noted national figures in journalism, and we have every assurance that the program can be carried out to the letter. The program as arranged includes addresses by such men as Frank P. Stockbridge, editor of *Popular Mechanics*; Richard Lloyd-Jones, of the *Madison State Journal*, and formerly identified with New York publications; Prof. E. A. Ross, who is a national authority upon social problems, and the newspaper in relation to them; Dean E. A. Birge, who has vigorous ideas on the instruction of journalism; Fred McKenzie, and Joseph Davies.

The convention committee believes, that without sacrificing all of the social side of the meeting, such a divergence from the stereotyped form of convention will be the greatest possible benefit to the delegates, and to the fraternity.

With the assistance which the convention committee is receiving from the members and alumni of Iota, there is not a reason in the world why this convention should not set a mark for future conventions to follow. Still, without the active support of each chapter all the efforts of the committee and of Iota will be useless, and, for the committee, I can not too strongly urge every chapter to get behind this convention, and boost. The election of delegates should now be under way, and the committee hopes to be receiving returns in the very near future.

OUR TREASURY SYSTEM

BY R. C. LOWRY,

NATIONAL TREASURER OF SIGMA DELTA CHI.

I have been requested by Brother Pennell to write an article for this issue of the *QUILL*, on the treasury system in vogue by the fraternity.

As an introduction I want to say that the present system is by no means an invention of my own, rather it is an adoption. Several changes necessary under the difference of existing conditions have been made, but the fundamentals are the same as those in vogue by the athletic association of my alma mater—Purdue University.

I first became acquainted with the system after several months of intimacy with the management of the association mentioned. The splendid results incurred together with the unusual facility for checking purposes, commended the arrangement of financing very highly. As I understand the system was introduced at Purdue University by Hugh Nicol, Athletic Director, and a former manager of the St. Louis Browns, besides having been a big leaguer himself for some years.

It is essentially a voucher system. No moneys are paid out except upon receipt of a voucher submitted to the treasurer. These vouchers must bear thereon the names of the firms with whom the debt has been contracted, the date of the transaction, the exact nature of the transaction and the amount necessary to cover. In a space for that purpose, this voucher is O.K'd by the party incurring the bill, and is then mailed to the treasurer.

Upon receipt of voucher and note of verification check, a check is made out bearing the same number as that of the voucher and these are sent to the creditors, who must receipt the voucher and return. Thus a double check is possible, by means of the check, cancelled, and the receipt on the voucher. I might add further in this connection that no bills are paid on vouchers, unless statements bearing the firm's letter or business heads are attached to the voucher.

These vouchers are all recorded as they leave this office, in the ledger and also in a small day book, on which the vouchers are checked off as they return. By this means it is possible at any time to note what checks are outstanding. On the vouchers are divisions for accounts, such as "General, Railroad, Installation, Secretary, Treasurer, etc". This makes it possible to divide all accounts in a manner that will show directly in what department the money is being spent.

I have attempted to show thus far, how the money is paid out of this department. The method of recording all remittances is likewise a perfect checking method.

All money received by this department, to this date has come through the hands of the secretary. However, when money is received it is credited on the general credit side of the ledger, and is also credited in the ledger on the private account of the chapter remitting. For instance, if a remittance is made for national dues, the amount is credited to that chapter, and on the chapter account the names of the members for whom the national dues are being paid, are listed, together with their national registry number as submitted by the secretary. This makes it possible at any time to determine immediately the amount paid in by each chapter.

A notation at each entry is made of the letter from remitting party, both the letter and the entry being numbered so as to trace through the letter in case of any mistaken entry. At this time it has not been necessary to divide any accounts, but all have been charged to general account, owing to the general nature of expenditures and the necessity of equipping the secretary and treasurer with files, books, charters, order books, etc.

A balance is struck every month, and I am glad to say that as yet, there has been no discrepancy to mar the system. I am sorry to inform you that there is little money in the treasury at present.

MADISON AS A CONVENTION TOWN

BY W. A. FREEHOFF.

There are probably few university towns in which a group of fellows can have a better time than in Madison, especially in spring. The campus hugs the shore of Lake Mendota while two or three other lakes of lesser importance are scattered about conveniently. Canoeing and more canoeing is thus possible. Then there is a beautiful drive along the lake shore, and those who think a walk of thirty miles as nothing frequently skirt Mendota in a pleasant day's jaunt. The drive, too, has special adaptations for fussing. (I do not mean to say that University drive is the only fussable place in Madison).

We are not at all ashamed of our campus scenery and those who go scenery hunting at conventions will get their money's worth here, no matter where they come from. We also have beautiful buildings, as the Historical library for instance, although the architect changed his mind so often regarding the particular style he should adopt that the building scheme has been described "artistic confusion" and by others as a "capital crime." Then there is a "graftless" state capitol, not yet completed but enough of it standing to be well worth investigating.

Madison has an excuse for a theatre, a first-class vaudeville house, and all manner of "movies." Yet on the whole any delegate who plans to be dramatically elevated had better go to New York or Chicago. There are any number of churches, the most of them good ones, although those who are not religiously inclined may find congenial company in Madison, nevertheless. Saloons! They're trying to pass a law this session of the legislature to drive them out of the town, but that cannot by any means happen before the convention in May. They say that all the orthodox brands of thirst quenchers and thirst aggravaters are served, besides some special college "dope."

Wisconsin is a co-educational school. There are about a thousand girls enrolled and some of them are good looking. Unfortunately, most of these have dates engaged weeks ahead of time but

visiting delegates are civilly treated. If you are looking for a wife, by all means come to the convention; if you want a chance to go on a "spree" without your best girl knowing about it, come anyway.

If you are a member of a fraternity, you will probably find a chapter here. There is a bill up to abolish them with the saloons but even should it be passed it will not interfere with this convention. And if you do not belong to a social fraternity, come anyway. Wisconsin is democratic and Sigma Delta Chi treats all the brothers alike. Read what Brother Wells has to say about taking care of the "mob".

You, as journalists, will find Madison a royal host. You will be shown the hospitality of a great university, you will be given a good time, and you will be inspired with increased interest in the different lines of journalism. You will leave, determined to make Sigma Delta Chi even a greater power in the world of journalism than she is at present. Borrow or steal the money, but come.

WHERE WE FALL DOWN

BY R. C. LOWRY,

NATIONAL TREASURER OF SIGMA DELTA CHI.

It has been my lot in handling the Treasury Department of this fraternity to note that some of the chapters are not responding in a manner that will bespeak success for the order. Sigma Delta Chi is growing. At this stage of the game, the coalition of every chapter is needed to make the fraternity worthy of its ritualistic intentions.

Many of the chapters, and I am notably attracted to the fact, have not reported any initiates since the last National Convention when Constitutional measures were adopted for the recording of new members. There are at this time, fourteen chapters in the fraternity, with one other ready for admission—University of Oregon.

Of the fourteen chapters now enrolled, (I do not know the number of members) national dues have been submitted for forty-six (46) initiates. This is about three to each chapter. However, it is noticeable that eight chapters of the fourteen alone have reported initiates. Take from this number the two new chapters installed, and of the original chapter roll, six chapters have initiated men. This is truly a poor showing.

As mentioned before, there are fourteen chapters of the fraternity. Two of these have paid their shingle assessment, Iota Chapter and Zeta Chapter, of Wiconsin and Washington Universities respectively. I ask you if this is the correct spirit?

Don't allow your enthusiasm to wane. Get busy and report initiates and remit assessments if you would have the life of the fraternity perpetuated. You would hate to build a foundation for a giant structure and see it stand as a monument of your memories. I therefore ask all chapters of the fraternity to coöperate with the officers and make Sigma Delta Chi.



"FUSSERS' PARADISE."



CANOEING SCENE.

CHESTER WELLS, '13, PRESIDENT OF IOTA CHAPTER.



UNIVERSITY HALL.

PROGRAM FOR THE CONVENTION

FRIDAY, MAY 2.

- 10.00 a.m. Welcome address by Dr. W. G. Bleyer.
- 10.15 a.m. Registration and organization.
- 12.30 p.m. Lunch.
- 2.00 p.m. Business Session.
- *6.00 p.m. Dinner.
- 7.00 p.m. Open meeting under auspices, and primarily for, the fraternity.
- 9.00 p.m. Smoker, and model initiation.

SATURDAY, MAY 3.

- 9.00 a.m. Third Business Session.
- 12.30 p.m. Lunch.
- 2.00 p.m. Business Session.
- 8.30 p.m. Banquet.

*The second business session will probably not last all afternoon, but time will be allowed at this time for committee meetings.

CHAPTER LETTERS

GAMMA CHAPTER,

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

Gamma's big get-to-gether—the annual banquet—will come on the evening of April 26, thereby giving our delegation to the Madison convention an opportunity to imbibe additional enthusiasm; and, further, providing the spring initiates with attendance slips to what we are pleased to call a “classic”. In preparation for the event, the banquet committee is busy at work hitching our honorary and ex-active members to the slogan “I’ll be there!”, and we expect not only a full quota of members, but the best bunch of newspaper oratory ever rattled off in Ann Arbor.

Dollars to dough-nuts that Gamma will get more than two men to Madison for the convention. Its the one topic of conservation here,

the chapter being fully cognizant of the importance of such a conclave, not only from the standpoint of the fraternity at large, but from the standpoint of each individual chapter as well.

We are still adhering to the monthly luncheon idea and with good results. This, together with the regular meetings, has kept Gamma on the mark and prosperous to the degree which indicates a healthy chapter.

EPSILON CHAPTER

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

(Editor's Note: This chapter letter was received too late to run in its entirety and we have been compelled to blue-pencil everything but an excerpt from the "Yellow Journal", Epsilon's annual publication, which has to do with a description of initiation.)

"Epsilon initiated five goats into Sigma Delta Chi at the first fall initiation at the Hermitage. The tin-can digesters were James Cook Bardin and Loyal Chism Morrow, hang-overs from last year, and Darley Hiden Ramsey, James Foster, and Carl B. Livingston. After the quintette had been fully satisfied by the sacred ceremony, the invited guests were collected and the keg was removed from a convenient room on the Row to the nearby golf links. Ah, the golf links! Ah, the moon! Ah, the keg! Ah, the pretty cows! Again, ye beloved scenes!

"The swelling greensward was bathed in the light of the full moon that hung directly overhead—It is a Sigma Delta Chi tradition that it must be so full that as one raises the stein one's eyes meet those of the woman in the moon with an electric thrill. After the busy goats had gamboled over the green seeking wood with which to construct the annual fire to neutralize the chilly and refreshing night air, Guest Rob Gray produced the necessary spigot, and the sacred symbol of good-fellowship was tapped in the mid-waist line.

"Brother Taylor and Guest Dixon became involved in a dispute at the bottom of the hill over the possession of a certain cow which each claimed to have seen first. The cow was much alarmed. . . .

"Goat Livingston hurled the keg down the hill. It was rescued half-way down its perilous descent by the quickfootedness and bravery of Goat Morrow and Guest Steger. . . .

"Brother Jenkins arrived on the green. . . .

"A foot race around hole number two between two goats and two guests was declared a tie. . . .

"The keg was formerly rolled down the hill where Tom Preston couldn't find it, and the assemblage adjourned en masse."

IOTA CHAPTER,

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Iota chapter has not been marked by extraordinary activity during the past two months, but now that the convention is at hand, the men are busy, indeed.

Perhaps the most notable event was the coming of Mr. Keeley, the editor of the *Chicago Tribune*. He was the guest of the fraternity at a smoker held at the Park Hotel and talked freely about the problems connected with newspaper editing and reporting.

Not taken up formally by the chapter but yet participated in by most of the fraternity men, as individuals, was the movement to obtain a board of control for student publications. This movement originated from the faculty because of objectionable matter that had appeared in some student papers and because of other alleged irregularities. The individual members seem to be by no means unanimous regarding the advisability of a board of control as some charge a domination by the faculty. At present the entire matter hangs fire.

Meanwhile, the convention is coming.

W. A. FREEHOFF.

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